

Did you know the Eskimos have something like 26 different words for snow? No big deal... In South Florida we've got about the same number of words for water.

Think about it. We've got rain-water, groundwater, flood water, irrigation water, water vapor, raw water, drinking water, waste-water...and more, right? That's because we use water in so many different ways. Let's check it out.

Water... Water...

2 **Irrigation Water.** A lot of our water goes for irrigating citrus groves, vegetables, sugarcane and other agricultural uses. Often irrigation water is diverted directly from lakes or canals, but quite a bit comes from wells, too.



Water.



Surface Water. The first stop for rain water is on the earth, where it's known as surface water. Besides taking care of all of us creatures of nature, this is the water that flows into—and is stored in—lakes, rivers, conservation areas and canals.

Sewage Treatment. Used water—wastewater or sewage—is collected and piped to treatment plants for processing. Most of the impurities are removed here.

Recreation. I've never heard of a name for water used in recreation, but whatever you call it, we use a lot of it here for everything from fishing to swimming to sailing and so on.

Reclaimed Water. This is wastewater which has been treated and released for use again, mainly for non-crop irrigation such as on parks or golf courses.

Groundwater. Most of the water used in South Florida cities comes out of the ground. People use it in their homes and for heavy duty things like in hospitals and for fire fighting. A lot of businesses need water, too—not just office buildings, but things like manufacturing and food processing.